

Newsletter of the Pilchuck Treasure Hunting Club

THE  
**DIRTY  
DIGGER**

OCTOBER 2020

**COLLECTING  
MARBLES**

» story on pages 6 & 7



**Columns**

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- » Coins to be Found
- » Throwback (New!)
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# Events

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## No PTHC Events

We must adhere to the state regulations regarding Covid19. Specifically no group gatherings of over 5 people - even outdoors. King and Snohomish counties are still in Phase 2; once we get to Phase 3 we can resume Second Saturday Hunts.

I had hoped to have a modified rule set for this hunt, but since Washington state hasn't reached Phase 3, we can't get together for this event. We'll be sure to make a grand announcement when we can resume Second Saturday Hunts.

Corona Virus Phases  
<https://coronavirus.wa.gov/what-you-need-know/safe-start/whats-open-each-phase>

- Club President, David Label

## State Park Free Days

- » Saturday, Oct. 10 — World Mental Health Day
- » Wednesday, Nov. 11 — Veterans Day
- » Friday, Nov. 27 — Autumn Day

## Member Help Needed

**First:** Check your journals! I'm working to document all of the Coins to be Found finds. I've scoured the Dirty Digger archives to see what coins were found and by whom, and the list is not complete. If you've found a Coin to be Found item, please email [pthc.news@gmail.com](mailto:pthc.news@gmail.com) with the name of the coin, when you found it, and the prize you received.

**Second:** Please let me know if you catch any errors or something just flat out wrong in the Dirty Digger. Metal detecting definitely is a learn-as-you-go hobby. Thanks!

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# Board News

## PTHC Member Benefits

Reminder that your PTHC membership includes membership in the MDAW - Metal Detecting Association of Washington.

PTHC pays an annual club membership to MDAW for that benefit. MDAW is dedicated to advancing and advocating for the hobby of metal detecting in the State of Washington. There is a lot of great information on the MDAW website, <https://sites.google.com/site/metaldetectwa/>.

## Board Positions

The PTHC Board has a couple of open positions. Please contact [pthc.news@gmail.com](mailto:pthc.news@gmail.com) if you're interested in joining your club's board.

- » Secretary
- » Program Chairman

**Roles & Duties are in the By-Laws.**

# Contact Info

## PTHC Executive Committee

**President** > David Label      **Treasurer** > Ray Desy  
**Vice-President** > Randy Ruoslata      **Secretary** > Vacant

## PTHC Executive Board

**Sergeant-at-Arms** > Ben Trower  
**Program Chairman** > Dave Label (acting)

## PTHC Officers

**Newsletter Editor** > Vaughan Douglas > [pthc.news@gmail.com](mailto:pthc.news@gmail.com)

# Copper Cache

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Please note: The Copper Cache hunt is open only to active PTHC members. If you'd like to become a member, you'll find membership info here: <https://thepthc.wixsite.com/pthc/members-corner>.

PTHC Member Mike C. has feverishly provided clues to the cache's whereabouts. Should you find it, please email [pthc.news@gmail.com](mailto:pthc.news@gmail.com). When there is news regarding this club event, you'll get it in your inbox and on the web.



## The Cache

### Clue 1: 8/24/2020

It's not where it was on Friday (8/21/2020).

### Clue 2: 8/24/2020

I can almost touch the salt water from where I lay.

### Clue 3: 8/28/2020

If you stand close to me and face South you will see North.

### Clue 4: 9/4/2020

There are Masts to my Southeast.

### Clue 5: 9/4/2020

The Boat is split.

### Clue 6: 9/12/2020

You can catch fish or crabs not far from me.

### Clue 7: 9/24/2020

There is an island 300 yards west of me.

## The Clues

More about the Copper Cache on the next page in a new Dirty Digger column.

### Competition Rules (partial list)

1. This competition is for PTHC club members only. Well, anyone may find it - that's a built-in risk - prizes will be awarded only to PTHC members.
2. Copper Cache must be found using a metal detector.
3. When you find it, email [pthc.news@gmail.com](mailto:pthc.news@gmail.com) to claim the find and your prize.
4. The hider periodically provides clues to the cache's location until it is found. These clues will be distributed to members by email, the Dirty Digger, and at the monthly club meetings.
5. Hide it somewhere north of the Ship Canal Bridge and south of Stanwood, WA.

The complete rules are on the web: <https://thepthc.wixsite.com/pthc/copper-cache>

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# The Digger Throwback

Introducing a new column intended to pluck gems, treasures, and pearls of wisdom from the Dirty Digger archives.  
<https://thepthc.wixsite.com/pthc/archives>

## Here's how the introduction of Steve's Stash appeared in the Dirty Digger in May 2017.

**Here's something Fun!** Recently, the Pilchuck Treasure Hunting Club membership has voted to establish a new treasure hunt! It will be called "Steve's Stash" in honor of our long time fellow club member Steve Stretch. A special token item has been designed and made by club member Mark Jenkins (see the photo below). It is a block of solid plastic with embedded lead tokens and a photo of Steve swinging a detector (pretty cool!) This token will be hidden somewhere north of the "ship canal" and south of Stanwood (at least that's the idea at this point!). Clues about its location will be given periodically, so all you have to do is set your detector to sound off for lead, follow the clues and capture this prize! The clues will be given at our monthly club meetings...so keep turned and we'll let you know when it's been hidden and ready to find!!



This May 2017 article written by Ray D.

### Update! Update!

"Steve's Stash" has been stashed by PTHC president Ron Hetzel. The first clue given out at the April 19<sup>th</sup> club meeting is: "In a park, under some bark." Well that should narrow it down some...get out and find it you all and let the hunt begin!

The Copper Cache reigns as a highlight hunt for PTHC. It's gone through some changes and drama over the years.

### May 2017

Steve's Stash voted in by



PTHC members

### December 2018

Steve's Stash goes missing after being hidden by Walt E. at Matthews Beach, Seattle, WA



### March 2019

Jim T. swoops in and replaces Steve's Stash with the Cookie Cutter Caper

### April 2020

Scott J. transforms the Cookie Cutter Caper to the Copper Cache (the cookie cutter was in bad shape)



### October 2020

You're all caught up

# Members' Corner.....October 2020.

PTHC member **Kari D.** writes about her marble collection.

If you have a treasure hunting story or finds to share, submit it to [pthc.news@gmail.com](mailto:pthc.news@gmail.com).

## Collecting Marbles

- by Kari D.

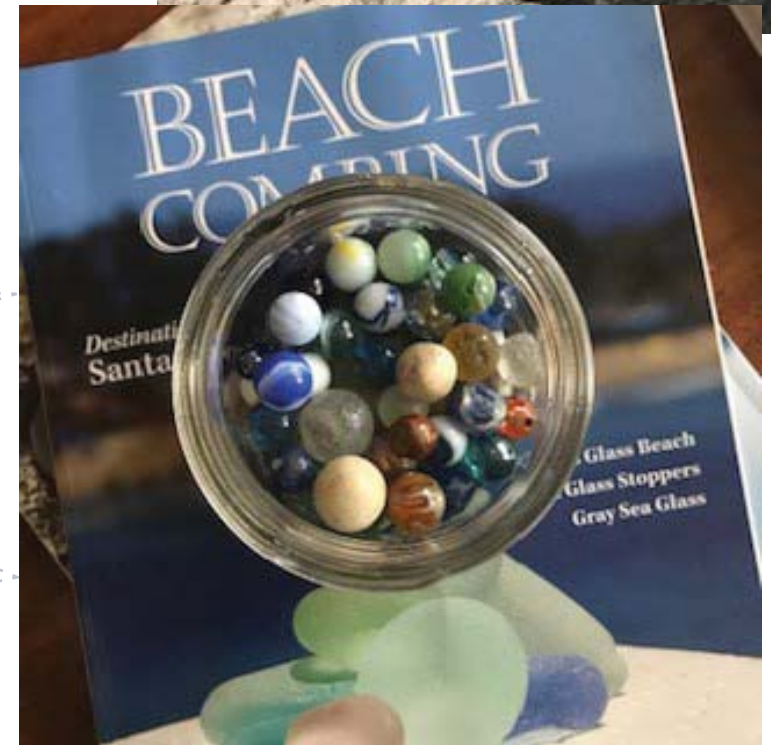
I started collecting marbles as a kid. Something about these magical little orbs always caught my eye. That collection unfortunately is long gone, lost to the years of moving around. Maybe those marbles are out there waiting for someone to unearth them.

I started finding marbles again when I started metal detecting with Mike, 3 or 4 years ago. Whether spotting them on a beach or finding them in the hole while detecting, they still give me that magical feeling after all these years. My "collection" is small, they are hard to find, but I hope to fill up this jar someday. Finding a marble will always make my day, even if I don't find any good metal detecting finds, a marble will always make up for it!

Some of my favorite marbles I have found are clay marbles. Marbles have been made from clay, stone, glass and other materials throughout history. You can read about the history of marbles and the game itself, if you are really bored one day during this Covid time, who knows, maybe you will want to become a Mibster! ●



A marble I would like to find someday would be a Sulphide type marble. This type of marble has a figure inside, for instance like an animal. That would be an awesome find!



**Kari provided URLs to check out for more marble information:**

- <https://www.marblecollecting.com/marble-reference/online-marble-id-guide/earthenware/>
- <https://www.mentalfloss.com/article/29486/brief-history-marbles-including-all-marble-slang/>
- <https://www.worthpoint.com/worthopedia/3-antique-sulphide-marbles-1-price-buy-it-now>

# Coins to be Found

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This PTHC competition is a long-running favorite and open to all active members. Find a coin in the lists below and claim your prize. This column's been jazzed up a bit.

## America the Beautiful Quarters® Program

### 2010 - 2018 Quarters

- 2010 - Oregon - Mount Hood - P
- 2010 - Arizona - Grand Canyon National Park - P
- 2012 - Maine - Acadia National Park - P
- 2012 - Hawaii - Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park - P
- 2013 - New Hampshire - White Mountain National Forest - P
- 2013 - Ohio - Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial - P
- 2014 - Tennessee - Great Smoky Mountains National Park - P
- 2016 - South Carolina - Fort Moultrie (Fort Sumter National Monument) - P
- 2018 - Minnesota - Voyageurs National Park - P
- 2018 - Georgia - Cumberland Island National Seashore - P



### 2019 Quarters

- 2019 - Massachusetts - Lowell National Historical Park - DPW
- 2019 - Northern Mariana Islands - American Memorial Park - PW
- 2019 - Guam - War in the Pacific National Historical Park - PW
- 2019 - Texas - San Antonio Missions National Historical Park - PW
- 2019 - Idaho - Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness - PW

### 2020 Quarters

- 2020 - American Samoa - National Park of American Samoa - P
- 2020 - Connecticut - Weir Farm National Historic Site - DP
- 2020 - U.S. Virgin Islands - Salt River Bay National Historic Park - P
- 2020 - Vermont - Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park - DP
- 2020 - Kansas - Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve - DP (release date 11/16/2020)

## Competition Rules

1. This competition is for PTHC club members only. Well, anyone can find the coins; prizes will be awarded to only PTHC members.
2. Coins to be Found must be found using a metal detector.
3. When you find one of the coins, email pthc.news@gmail.com to claim the find and your prize.
4. If you're the first club member to find the coin, you will receive the prize.
5. Prizes will be awarded at the next regular monthly meeting (we're still keeping track during the pandemic).

Be the first club member to find, with your metal detector, one of the 2019 Quarters with the mint mark "W", and claim a special prize of a silver half dollar.

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2015 Native American Dollar

## Native American \$1 Coin Program

- 2011 - Wampanoag Treaty 1621 - P
- 2012 - Trade Routes in the 17th Century - P
- 2013 - Treaty with the Delawares - DP
- 2014 - Native Hospitality - DP
- 2015 - Mohawk Ironworkers - DP
- 2016 - Code Talkers - DP
- 2017 - Sequoyah - DP
- 2018 - Jim Thorpe Wa-Tho-Huk - DP
- 2019 - American Indians in the Space Program - DP
- 2020 - Elizabeth Peratrovich - DP

## Presidential \$1 Coin Program

- 2011 - Rutherford B. Hayes - P
- 2011 - James Garfield - P
- 2012 - Chester A. Arthur - DP
- 2012 - Grover Cleveland - DP
- 2013 - William McKinley - DP
- 2013 - Theodore Roosevelt - DP
- 2013 - William Howard Taft - DP
- 2013 - Woodrow Wilson - DP
- 2014 - Warren G. Harding - DP
- 2014 - Calvin Coolidge - DP
- 2014 - Herbert Hoover - P
- 2014 - Franklin Delano Roosevelt - DP
- 2015 - Harry S. Truman - DP
- 2015 - Dwight D. Eisenhower - D
- 2015 - John F. Kennedy - DP
- 2015 - Lyndon B. Johnson - DP
- 2016 - Richard M. Nixon - DP
- 2016 - Gerald R. Ford - DP
- 2016 - Ronald Reagan - DP
- 2020 - George H. W. Bush - DP



**New Coin!**



(If you know the issue date of this coin, please let me know. Also, will it be circulated?)

## Coins found 2019 and 2020

- 2018 - Michigan - Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore - P (found by Ron A., 8/29/2020)
- 2019 - Idaho - Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness - D (found by Stan S., 7/26/2020 8AM)
- 2011 - Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Dollar - P (found by Stan S., 7/13/2020 2AM)
- 2019 - Texas - San Antonio Missions National Historical Park - D (found by Lloyd M., 2/1/2020)
- 2017 - District of Columbia - Frederick Douglas National Historic Site - P (found by Kari D., 9/30/2019)
- 2019 - Guam - War in the Pacific National Historical Park - D (found by Mike K., 9/30/2019)
- 2019 - Northern Mariana Islands - American Memorial Park - D (found by Mike K., 9/18/2019)
- 2018 - Rhode Island - Block Island National Wildlife Refuge - P (found by Mike K., 9/18/2019)
- 2018 - Rhode Island - Block Island National Wildlife Refuge - D (found by Mike K., 8/21/2019)
- 2018 - Cumberland Island National Seashore - D (found by Mike K., 8/21/2019)
- 2014 - Herbert Hoover Presidential Dollar - D (found by Lloyd M., 6/19/2019)
- 2012 - Chaco Culture National Park - P (found by Woody A., 2/20/2019)
- 2011 - Glacier National Park - P (found by Woody A., 2/20/2019)
- 2010 - Millard Fillmore Presidential Dollar - P (found by Pat S., 2/7/2019)

# Is This Diamond for Real?

Vaughan's stirring tale of something sparkly found.



Hallmarks read  
"925 14k GP"



Haven't found any rings like this before, so a little **investigating and testing** is required. 925 is the hallmark for sterling silver and the 14K GP means gold plated (knew that already). What I don't know is 'Why are these markings together?' Jewelrnotes.com says this is a common practice called gold vermeil. Rats. Glorified costume jewelry. Double Rats. On the bright side, it's **sterling silver**.

**Next**, down to the garage to run an acid test: results come back 10k-14k, so another notch in the positive column: it is **gold plated**.

**Finally**, on Friday the "Diamond Selector II" tool arrived and the read out indicates it's a bonafide fake diamond.

Well, that can't be final. **Further testing needed**. This involves a handful of my wife's diamond jewelry collection, including a 1.01ct diamond ring. The "Diamond Selector II" tool read out registers that as a fake, too. Oh no! Maybe I have a bonafide piece of junk Diamond Selector II. That's the obvious better choice than her 1.01ct diamond not being real.

OK, so check the tool against other diamonds. *They're all fake!* How can that be? Operator error maybe? Recalibrate the tool for surrounding temperature of over 85°F and suddenly they're real. WTH? Well, in either calibration of surrounding temperature, my found ring does not possess a genuine diamond. Dang. **Finally finally**, my jeweler's test proved this **is not a real diamond**. Dag nabbit.

## Excerpt from the Metal Detecting Log

2020-09-06 | Juanita Beach | Kirkland, WA



Slow start. Three pennies found after covering 1/3 of the beach. Then a target ID of 28 in the area of the two logs. Scooped up the sand and it weren't in there. Bent down for another scoop and, I saw something sparkle. A ring! With diamonds! **My first diamond ring**.

In the middle of the beach, coins popped up more frequently: quarters, dimes, and cents. 89 cents total.

Arm is super tired now.

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# Scavenger Hunt

Ron A. compiled this scavenger hunt exclusively for PTHC. This hunt runs from April 15 to the day of the next regular monthly club meeting.

Pilchuck Treasure Hunting Club 2020

Scavenger Hunt 1 January 16 - April 15

Three highest point totals receive silver prizes as well as all the participants.

Please bring Bonus point items to the April club meeting.

Any questions contact Ron Aldridge at 206-818-2197 or ron.aldridge@comcast.net

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <b>Eyeball / Scooping Finds</b>   | <b>Coins &amp; Tokens</b>  | <b>Misc. Finds</b>  |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. feather</li> <li>2. clam or oyster shell</li> <li>3. marble</li> <li>4. button (any material)</li> <li>5. tree nut (chestnut, acorn, etc)</li> <li>6. wad of foil</li> <li>7. pavement penny</li> <li>8. pavement dime</li> <li>9. pottery shard</li> <li>10. bead (any material)</li> <li>11. bobby pin</li> <li>12. bubble gum wad</li> <li>13. old bottle (pre 1960)</li> <li>14. U.S. paper money</li> <li>15. pull tabs (3 different colors)</li> <li>16. rubber band</li> <li>17. glove or mitten</li> <li>18. sock</li> <li>19. glasses (sun or regular)</li> <li>20. plastic toy</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. birth year coin</li> <li>2. Buffalo nickel (no date)</li> <li>3. Canadian coin</li> <li>4. tax token</li> <li>5. 1976 Bicentennial quarter</li> <li>6. \$4.00 in dug U.S. coins (accumulated)</li> <li>7. V Nickel</li> <li>8. silver Washington quarter</li> <li>9. 15 Wheaties</li> <li>10. no date Wheatie</li> <li>11. transit token</li> <li>12. "Good For" token</li> <li>13. Mercury dime</li> <li>14. silver Roosevelt dime</li> <li>15. silver war nickel (1943 thru 1945)</li> <li>16. 1919 Wheat penny</li> <li>17. 2 foreign coins (non Canadian)</li> <li>18. 1909-S thru 1915-S Wheatie (one only)</li> <li>19. 1940 thru 1959 Wheatie (one only)</li> <li>20. Barber coin (one only) (1892-1916 10c, 25c or 50c)</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. safety pin</li> <li>2. junk jewelry</li> <li>3. hinge</li> <li>4. tooth paste type squeeze tube</li> <li>5. hair barrette</li> <li>6. 5 toy cars &amp; trucks</li> <li>7. gear wheel from watch or toy</li> <li>8. suspender piece</li> <li>9. metal toy wheel</li> <li>10. blue jeans button</li> <li>11. military button</li> <li>12. copper tubing</li> <li>13. whistle</li> <li>14. bell</li> <li>15. harmonica part</li> <li>16. pencil eraser</li> <li>17. shell casing</li> <li>18. bullet head</li> <li>19. key</li> <li>20. fishing weight</li> <li>21. spoon</li> <li>22. lead soldier piece</li> <li>23. fork</li> <li>24. silver ring</li> <li>26. copper wire</li> <li>27. ace bandage clip</li> <li>28. tire weight</li> <li>29. thimble</li> <li>30. old fuse</li> </ol> |
| <b>Bonus Items (3 pts)</b>  | <b>Detecting /Scooping</b>   |   |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. exhibition or worlds fair item</li> <li>2. ring with inscription</li> <li>3. auto key (maker marked Ford, GM, etc.)</li> <li>4. item w/ patent date between 1895 -1919</li> <li>5. gold ring (10k+)</li> </ol>  |  |   |

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